

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 001410

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 001410

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, ID, PT

SUBJECT: USE OF U.S. ARMS BY INDONESIAN FORCES IN PORTU-
GUESE TIMOR

FOR CHARGE RIVES ONLY

1. IF MEMBERS OF CODEL RANDALL QUERY YOU ON THIS SUBJECT,
YOU SHOULD CONFINE YOUR REMARKS TO THE FOLLOWING POINTS,
EMPHASIZING THAT YOU ARE SPEAKING IN CONFIDENCE:

A. TIMOR IS A REMOTE AREA AND THERE ARE NO U.S. OBSERVERS
ON THE SCENE. WE THUS MUST RELY ON REPORTS OF INDONESIAN
OPERATIONS FROM OTHER SOURCES, PRIMARILY INDONESIAN AND
AUSTRALIAN;

B. NOTWITHSTANDING GAPS IN INFORMATION, IT APPEAR THAT
EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED UNDER U.S. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS WAS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 001410

USED BY INDONESIAN FORCES IN TIMOR;

C. THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN AWARE OF THE PROVISIONS OF U.S. LAW REFLECTED IN OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WHICH GOVERN THE USES TO WHICH EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY U.S. CAN BE PUT.

D. THE U.S. HAS BEEN STUDYING VERY CAREFULLY THE IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY AND PROGRAMS OF THE APPARENT USE OF U.S. EQUIPMENT BY INDONESIAN FORCES IN TIMOR. HIGHLY RELEVANT TO THAT STUDY HAS BEEN THE ADOPTION, ON DECEMBER 22ND, BY UNANIMOUS VOTE (15-0) OF A RESOLUTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL. THAT ACTION REFLECTS THE JUDGMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ON THE SITUATION IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR, INCLUDING THE PROBLEMS POSED FOR INDONESIA BY THAT SITUATION; CALLS ON THE PARTIES MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED -- INDONESIA AND PORTUGAL -- TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS; AND CALLS ON THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL TO SEND A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO TIMOR ON A FACT-FINDING MISSION. VITTORIO WINSPEARE GUICCIRDI HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT INDONESIA HAS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE ACTIONS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, AND HAS AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH THE UN IN THE MATTER. ACCORDINGLY, WE ARE KEEPING THE MATTER UNDER CAREFUL STUDY, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO REACH FINAL CONCLUSIONS UNTIL WE SEE HOW THE SITUATION DEVELOPS.

2. IF THE CODEL PRESSES FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE POINTS, YOU SHOULD REFER THEM TO THE DEPARTMENT. INGERSOLL

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